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# Memo

**To:** Superintendents, Business Managers, and Transportation Directors  
**From:** Doug Scott, Transportation Director  
**Date:** July 1, 2015  
**Re:** Basic Bus Bids and Maximum Depreciation

In accordance with Idaho Code 33-1006 and Standards for Idaho School Buses and Operations, the State Department of Education recently solicited bids for Conventional and Transit FE basic school buses. The July 2015 basic bus low bid will be used to set maximum depreciation reimbursements for a six month period. SDE will solicit bids again in June to set maximum depreciation allowed for the following six months.

School districts will continue to independently bid buses in accordance with bidding requirements outlined in Idaho Code. Districts may bid for school buses using individual specifications or may bid using the state basic bus specifications. Idaho basic bus specifications are available online at <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/transportation/>.

New school bus depreciation reimbursements will be limited to the state basic bus low bid plus any pre-approved safety options. The following table lists maximum depreciation allowed on district bus bids accepted between July 1 and December 31, 2015. Districts will submit a copy of school board meeting minutes as documentation of the bid acceptance date.

Diesel	Actual Passenger Capacity (Lift buses based on rated capacity)					
	41-42	53-54	65-66	71-72	77-78	83-84
Conventional	\$86,901	\$88,401	\$89,621	\$90,445	\$91,550	N/A
Transit FE	\$109,600	\$100,860	\$101,433	\$102,981	\$104,232	\$105,101

Type A	Actual Passenger Capacity (Lift buses based on rated capacity)
	29-30
Diesel	\$63,749
Gas	\$53,780

In addition to the above listed maximum depreciation, the following safety options may be allowed as additional reimbursement on a pre-approval basis. Districts that need safety options beyond the basic bus, two-way radio, and four camera passenger surveillance system must submit a pre-approval request in advance of bidding the bus. Bus safety option pre-approval requests should be submitted online via IBUS (Idaho Bus Utilization System). The following table reports the maximum reimbursement added to the basic bus for each safety option and the amount removed for non-reimbursable options.

Safety Options	Blue Bird	International	Thomas
Additional Integrated Child Restraint Seats and include LATCH attachments cost per seat	\$770.00	\$800.00	\$750.00
Air conditioning vest	\$250.00	\$400.00	\$200.00
Alternative fuel compressed natural gas engine-CNG engine	\$30,000.00	N/A	\$29,500.00
Alternative fuel liquefied petroleum gas engine-propane-LPG engine	\$9,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$13,700.00
Automatic chains	\$2,400.00	\$2,600.00	\$2,400.00
Cost per wheel chair station	\$998.00	\$682.00	\$1,560.00
Driver's side window sun visor	\$35.00	\$100.00	\$65.00
Electromagnetic driveline retarder	N/A	\$9,453.00	\$9,650.00
Flat floor	N/C	\$960.00	\$1,825.00
Front bumper mounted student crossing arm	\$400.00	\$300.00	\$360.00
Full track seating 72 passengers	\$14,000.00 (9 W/C)	\$5,669.00	\$9,450.00
Heated entry steps	\$350.00	\$331.00	\$355.00
Passenger lap seat belts, cost per seat	\$58.00	\$200.00	\$165.00
Passenger three point seat belts, cost per seat	\$610.00	\$450.00	\$395.00
Roof mounted air deflector	\$700.00	\$560.00	\$525.00
Second stop arm – left side rear	\$260.00	\$345.00	\$365.00
Track seating per station	\$550.00	\$682.00	\$725.00

<b>Safety Options</b>	<b>Blue Bird</b>	<b>International</b>	<b>Thomas</b>
Track seats to be installed, cost per seat	\$210.00	\$460.00	\$725.00
Wheel chair lift package # lbs. cap.1000, w/seat belt cutter having a full width handgrip to be included.	Ricon \$6,200.00 Braun \$6,900.00	\$7,100.00	\$8,095.00
Additional price per camera for passenger surveillance system with more than four cameras	\$210.00	\$475.00	\$315.00
Fire block seating per seat in-lieu of standard seat	\$54.00	\$23.50	\$24.50
Tinted passenger and rear windows glass (28%)	\$150.00	\$600.00	\$329.00
White roof	\$200.00	\$456.00	\$585.00
<b>Non-Reimbursable Extended Engine Warranties</b>	<b>Blue Bird</b>	<b>International</b>	<b>Thomas</b>
5 year 150,000 miles extended any major component	N/A	\$1,450.00	N/A
7 year 150,000 miles extended coverage	\$2,000.00	\$2,300.00	\$2,200.00
7 year 150,000 miles extended any major component	\$600.00	\$1,800.00	\$750.00
10 year 200,000 miles extended coverage	\$4,200.00	\$4,200.00	\$4,250.00
10 year 200,000 miles extended any major component	\$800.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,050.00
10 year Unlimited miles extended coverage	\$4,700.00	N/A	N/A

Please contact SDE with any questions on the new basic bus bids or maximum depreciation. Bus sizes or types that fall outside the basic bus specifications will be depreciated at a rate not to exceed the prior year's average low bid price.